



**United States Border Patrol
San Diego Sector
Public Information Office
2411 Boswell Road
San Diego, California 91914-3519
(619) 216-4182**



PRESS RELEASE

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Border Patrol Seizes 827 Pounds of Marijuana *Largest seizure in San Diego Sector this Fiscal Year*

Temecula, Calif.- U.S. Border Patrol agents seized over 827 pounds of marijuana, valued at more than \$289,000, at the Interstate 15 checkpoint near Temecula yesterday.

Agents discovered the narcotics hidden inside a disguised utility van. The occupants, dressed in uniform coveralls, were referred to secondary inspection after agents noticed their nervous behavior. A Service K-9 dog alerted agents to the narcotics. Agents found 92 bundles of marijuana wrapped in cellophane inside two large compartments hidden behind several tools.

The two occupants of the vehicle were U.S. Citizens. The occupants and the narcotics were turned over to the Riverside Sheriff's Office for prosecution.

Since the beginning of FY 2001 to date, Border Patrol agents in the San Diego Sector have seized over \$3.9 million worth of marijuana.

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